

Kolbe, a Catholic priest who gave his life for a Jewish man there.

And then, for those of you who don't know, I am a social worker, I have been a child abuse worker and I don't flinch.

But then I got half way through that tour and I came to a point in that tour where I saw the bins with glasses and the children's shoes, and this 40-something-year-old Congresswoman could not go on.

I became unglued. I had to remove myself from the small tour, go off into a private place in Auschwitz, cry in a way that shook my very soul. And when I left there, I thought, now I really know why we need an Israel.

And that is why I will fight so hard to ensure the survival of Israel. I know its importance. I know why it exists. I will always fight for the survival and the viability of the State of Israel. My support is unabashed and unwavering.

I also know why it is so important for us educate our young people—about the effects of hatred, about the importance of history.

That is why I have worked with the Polish and Jewish communities in Baltimore to develop a U.S.-Poland-Israel Exchange program. Young people from America, Poland and Israel will join together to learn about each other's history and culture. They will visit Poland and Israel, to visit historical and religious sites, to learn together about history and to work together to build a brighter future.

In closing, I would like to read the words of Eli Weisel:

Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which has turned my life into one long night, seven times cursed and seven times sealed. Never shall I forget that smoke. Never shall I forget the faces of the children, whose bodies I saw turned into wreathes of smoke beneath a silent blue sky. Never shall I forget those flames which consumed my faith forever.

Never shall I forget that nocturnal silence which deprived me, for all eternity, of the desire to live. Never shall I forget those moments which murdered my God and my soul and turned my dreams to dust. Never shall I forget these things, even if I am condemned to live as long as God himself.

Mr. President, 60 years after the liberation of Auschwitz, let us pledge never to forget. And let us honor those who died in the holocaust by fighting against bigotry, hate crimes, and intolerance.

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, since I am going to ask on behalf of the leader the resolution be agreed to, I want to express my gratitude to his office and the Democratic leader's office for their expeditious handling of this resolution, and also Senator WYDEN and all those who have cosponsored it.

On their behalf, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid on the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 18) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 18

Whereas on January 27, 1945, the Auschwitz extermination camp in Poland was liberated by Allied Forces during World War II after almost 5 years of murder, rape, and torture;

Whereas more than 1,000,000 innocent civilians were murdered at the Auschwitz extermination camp;

Whereas the Auschwitz extermination camp symbolizes the brutality of the Holocaust;

Whereas Americans must never forget the terrible crimes against humanity committed at the Auschwitz extermination camp and must educate future generations to promote understanding of the dangers of intolerance in order to prevent similar injustices from happening again; and

Whereas commemoration of the liberation of the Auschwitz extermination camp will instill in all Americans a greater awareness of the Holocaust: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates January 27, 2005, as the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz extermination camp by Allied Forces during World War II; and

(2) calls on all Americans to remember the more than 1,000,000 innocent victims murdered at the Auschwitz extermination camp as part of the Holocaust.

Mr. TALENT. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DORGAN. I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COBURN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE HEARING ON SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, on Friday of this week we will be holding in the Democratic Policy Committee a hearing that deals with part of our overall goal to hold oversight hearings that are not being held by committees. This Friday's hearing will be on the subject of Social Security. Among the witnesses at this hearing will be Franklin Delano Roosevelt's grandson, the AARP, and we will have a couple of employees of the Social Security Administration who will testify about efforts inside the Social Security Administration to get some of the career employees to push the issue of privatization and the issue that there is, in fact, a crisis in Social Security. We are going to have a hearing on these issues.

Incidentally, we have invited witnesses who will provide a full range of opinions. A representative of the Cato Institute is invited to appear. As we have always done with our hearings, we have people with divergent viewpoints. As I indicated previously, I would invite any Republicans to join us at any of our hearings at any time.

Our intention is not to have hearings that are "gotcha." Our intention is to have hearings, however, in circumstances where we believe oversight

has not occurred. These hearings will give us an opportunity to explore issues in a more aggressive way.

We held hearings previously, for example, on contract abuses in Iraq by the Halliburton corporation. We will have another hearing on that subject, along with allegations about another company engaged in contract abuses in Iraq, because there is substantial waste, fraud, and abuse. The evidence of that is all around us. There is precious little effort or energy on the part of some in Congress to take a look at it and deal with it and do something about it.

SOCIAL SECURITY

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I wish to make a couple of comments about the future of Social Security because the President talked about this issue again this morning. This is a big issue. I noticed in a recent newspaper article that someone, who philosophically doesn't appear to believe in Social Security, said: "Social Security is the soft underbelly of the welfare state."

Social Security is a program that was signed into law by Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1930's. It is an insurance program. Money is taken from workers' paychecks in the form of something called FICA taxes. The "I" in FICA is insurance, not investment. Social Security is an insurance program. It has lifted tens of millions of elderly people out of poverty in this country. It has been amazingly successful. It is not in crisis. The President did not use that word—"crisis"—today, but he has used it the past, and others also have. It is not in crisis.

We have a responsibility with respect to the Social Security system to make some adjustments as we go along. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the Social Security system will be fully solvent until the year 2052. In the period beyond 2052, if no changes are made, Social Security would be able to pay about 80 percent of what we now pay in benefits. In fact, people are living longer, healthier, better lives as a result of Social Security. Yes, it is successful. People are living longer and healthier lives. We can and will and should make some adjustments in Social Security, but major surgery is not needed. I do not support privatized accounts in the Social Security system.

With respect to retirement security, we have two things. Social Security is the foundation. That is the basic retirement insurance. It is the one without risk and that will be there no matter what. Above that, we have retirement investments, 401(k)s, IRAs, and other private pension programs. I support those as well. I have supported aggressive incentives for the American people to invest in the stock market, in 401(k)s and IRAs and other retirement accounts. That is different than Social Security, the basic foundation of retirement security. The President suggests we should begin taking apart